AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (**Currently Amended**)   A method for screening an individual or group of patients for the likelihood of having left ventricular systolic dysfunction (LVSD) comprising, in any order the steps of:

(a) measurement of the levels of ~~a biomarker~~a natriuretic peptide in a sample or samples of bodily fluid of said patient; and

(b) conducting an electrocardiography (ECG) measurement on said patient or group of individuals;

identification of the presence or absence of one or more major abnormality factors from the ECG trace;

assigning or calculating weighting factors for (a) and (b); and

obtaining a result indicative of the probability of said individual having LVSD.

2. (**Previously Presented**) The method of claim 1, comprising the further step performed in any order in relation to the steps of claim 1 of identification of the presence or absence of one or more cofactors which are known to be risk factors for CVD; and assigning or calculating a weighing factor (c) to obtain said result.

3. (**Previously Presented**) The method of claim 1, wherein the weighting factors for (a), (b) and/or (c) are derived by logistic regression analysis on measurements of a biomarker, ECG findings, and of one or more cofactors which are known to be risk factors for CVD; wherein the patient population is taken from the general population and individuals have no previous diagnosis of LVSD.

4. (**Canceled**)

5. (**Previously Presented**)   The method of claim 2, wherein one or more cofactors are selected from myocardial infarction (MI) and angina.

6. - 7.   (**Canceled**)

8. (**Currently Amended**) The method of claim 1~~2~~, in which the natriuretic peptide is BNP.

9. (**Previously Presented**) The method of claim 10, for deriving an indicator of LVSD.

10. - 20.   (**Canceled**)

21. (**Currently Amended**) A computer program comprising a set of instructions confe~~i~~gured to implement a method as claimed in claim 1.

22. (**Original**) A computer configured to implement a computer program as claimed in claim 21.

23. (**Original**) A computer readable medium storing a computer program as claimed in claim 21.